

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02515 01 OF 02 040609Z

12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SSC-01 SCCT-01 AID-05 EB-07 SNM-02

VO-03 SCA-01 /087 W

----- 087805

R 040445Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 237

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC HI

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK UNN

AMEMBASSY BONN UNN

AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI UNN

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU UNN

AMCONSUL MANDALAY UNN

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI UNN

USLO PEKING UNN

AMCONSUL UDORN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 RANGOON 2515

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR BM

SUBJ: JOINT WEEKA #33

1. CABINET SHIFTS? (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

RANGOON IS GOING THROUGH ONE OF ITS PERIODIC SURGES OF RUMORS ABOUT FORTHCOMING CABINET CHANGES, PROMPTED PERHAPS BY APPROACHING HLUTTAW (PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY) SESSION SCHEDULED FOR LATE SEPTEMBER OR EARLY OCTOBER. LIST IS HEADED BY PRIME MINISTER SEIN WIN WHO IS ALLEGEDLY MOVING TO THE COUNCIL OF STATE (HIS UNHAPPINESS WITH  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 02515 01 OF 02 040609Z

HIS CURRENT JOB IS WIDELY KNOWN) AND WOULD BE REPLACED BY DEPUTY

PRIME MINISTER/FINANCE MINISTER U LWIN, CURRENTLY ATTENDING THE IMF/IBRD MEETING IN WASHINGTON. (THERE IS A CONFLICTING RUMOR THAT U LWIN, WHO HAS MANY ENEMIES IN THE GUB, MIGHT SIMPLY BE MOVED OUT RATHER THAN UP.) OTHER SHIFTS REPORTED UNDER CONSIDERATION INCLUDE FONMIN HLA PHONE AND HOME MINISTER U KO KO SWITCHING JOBS, WITH U KO KO TAKING ON THE ADDITIONAL TITLE OF A SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER. ANOTHER REPORTED CHANGE IS THE TRANSFER OF DEPUTY FINANCE MINISTER CHIT MAUNG, CURRENTLY IN WASHINGTON WITH U LWIN, AS AMBASSADOR TO THE FRG.

COMMENT: THESE RUMORS ARE ALWAYS DIFFICULT TO ASSESS SINCE ONLY NE WIN CAN MAKE THE APPOINTMENTS. SOURCE CLOSE TO U LWIN SAID RECENTLY THAT THE DEPPM GIVES NO INDICATION THAT HE EXPECTS TO BE CHANGING (OR LOSING) HIS JOB BUT ADDS THAT HOME MINISTRY/FOREIGN MINISTRY SWITCH A STRONG POSSIBILITY. AT LEAST ONE OF THE APPOINTMENTS HAS A BASIS IN FACT; FRG HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR AGREEMENT ON CHIT MAUNG DESPITE THE FACT THAT HE IS REPORTEDLY LESS THAN HAPPY WITH THE NEW POSTING.

AJ2. CONTINUED POTENTIAL FOR POLITICAL UNREST (CONFIDENTIAL)

THE POTENTIAL FOR POLITICAL UNREST IN BURMA AND GUB CONCERN ABOUT IT CONTINUES. FOR EXAMPLE, A RIOT BROKE OUT AUGUST 23 AT MYITNGE, NEAR MANDALAY, SITE OF UPPER BURMA RAILWAY WORKSHOPS, OVER AN INSIGNIFICANT ISSUE. THE WORKSHOPS WERE A STRIKE CENTER DURING THE DISTURBANCES IN JUNE THIS YEAR. THERE IS ALSO AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT THAT ONE MAJOR AND FOUR CAPTAINS MAY HAVE BEEN DETAINED FOR CRITICIZING ECONOMIC SITUATION WITHIN ARMY. MEANWHILE THE "LAW AND ORDER" CAMPAIGN IN RANGOON CONTINUES UNABATED WITH DOZENS OF PETTY THIEVES, "ECONOMIC SABOTEURS" AND OTHER UNDESIRABLE ELEMENTS ROUNDED UP AND SENTENCED ALMOST DAILY BY SPECIAL COURTS. ONE POLICE SOURCE SAID "A COUPLE OF THOUSAND" PERSONS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED SINCE JUNE DISTURBANCES AND GAVE NO INDICATION WHEN CAMPAIGN MIGHT EASE.

### 3. TERRORISM: ARRESTS AND BOMBINGS (UNCLASSIFIED)

LOCAL PAPERS REPORT ARREST OF SIX EXPATRIATE SABOTEURS (PPP) IN RECENT DAYS BY POLICE. THE ARREST OF ONE APPARENTLY LED TO THE ARREST OF THE REMAINING FIVE. PISTOLS, HAND GRENADES, AMMUNITION, TIMERS, DETONATORS, AND TINS OF GELIGNITE WERE CONFISCATED DURING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 RANGOO 02515 01 OF 02 040609Z

THE ARRESTS. COMMENT: GELIGNITE HAD NOT BEEN FOUND IN EARLIER ARRESTS. POSSESSION OF THE POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE MAY REPRESENT AN ESCALATION IN THE TYPE OF TERRORIST TOOLS EMPLOYED LOCALLY. IN A SEPARATE INCIDENT, A TERRORIST IN THE EMPLOY OF THE PPP THREW A HAND GRENADE AT MID-DAY IN ONE OF RANGOON'S BUSIEST INTERSECTIONS ON AUGUST 30. AIMING AT AN EMPTY COMMERCIAL BUS, THE GRENADE BOUNCED INSTEAD INTO THE STREET, INJURING 24 BYSTANDERS, 3 OF WHOM SUBSEQUENTLY DIED. ALSO HIT WAS THE ASSAILANT HIMSELF. HE

WAS ARRESTED WHEN HE SOUGHT MEDICAL ATTENTION AT RANGOON GENERAL HOSPITAL.

4. INSURGENCY: BCP APPEALS TO KACHIN INDEPENDENCE ARMY (KIA)  
(UNCLASSIFIED)

AN AUGUST 22 BROADCAST BY THE CLANDESTINE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE OF BURMA APPEALED TO THE KIA TO CONTINUE IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN SPITE OF ITS "PROBLEMS" (THE RECENT ASSASSINATION OF KIA LEADERS). IT ASSERTS THAT TODAY'S SITUATION IS FAVORABLE TO OPPRESSED PEOPLES, CITING COMMUNIST SUCCESSES IN VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA. THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID THAT "WE" (BCP) ARE PREPARED TO GIVE ASSISTANCE TO THE KIA IN ITS FIGHT AGAINST NE WIN-SAN YU CONTROL. COMMENT: (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) THE KIA, DIVIDED IN THE PAST OVER WHETHER OR NOT TO UNITE WITH THE BCP, IS MORE PRONE TO FRAGMENTING NOW THAT A PRO-COMMUNIST GROUP ARRANGED FOR THE ASSASSINATION OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEADERSHIP. RECENT INFORMATION HAS POINTED TO THIS CONFLICT, AND BY NO MEANS HAS THE SPLIT BEEN RESOLVED BY THE ASSASSINATION. THERE IS A STRONG STRAIN OF ANTI-COMMUNISM THROUGHOUT THE KACHIN PEOPLE AND THE KIA, MOST OF IT EMANATING FROM THE INFLUENCE OF CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE KACHINS. A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE EDUCATED KACHINS RECEIVED THEIR EDUCATION FROM MISSIONARY SCHOOLS AND THEIR CONSERVATISM RUNS DEEP.  
HOWARTH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RANGOO 02515 02 OF 02 040614Z

12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SSC-01 SCCT-01 AID-05 EB-07 SNM-02

VO-03 SCA-01 /087 W

----- 087916

R 040445Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 238

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC HI  
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK UNN  
AMEMBASSY BONN UNN  
AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI UNN  
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU UNN  
AMCONSUL MANDALAY UNN  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI UNN  
USLO PEKING UNN  
AMCONSUL UDORN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 RANGOON 2515

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

5. LETPANDO PIPELINE (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

GUB IS NEGOTIATING WITH FOUR INTERNATIONAL FIRMS (INCLUDING KAISER) FOR OVER 70 MILES OF TEN INCH PIPELINE, TO TRANSPORT LETPANDO CRUDE TO REFINERY AT CHAUK. ONE INDICATION OF HIGH PRIORITY OF PROJECT IS FACT GUB IS ASKING FOR DELIVERY OF FIRST BATCH OF PIPE BY DECEMBER 1975.

EXPENDITURE OF CONSIDERABLESCARCEFOREIGN EXCHANGE ON THIS PROJECT SEEMS PREMATURE AS RESERVES OF LETPANDO FIELD NOT YET PROVEN, ALTHOUGH WORK NOW PROCEEDING ON FOURTH AND FIFTH TEST WELLS, AFTER  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RANGOO 02515 02 OF 02 040614Z

SECOND AND THIRD ABANDONED FOR TECHNICAL REASONS. HOWEVER, SOME GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM SEEMS TO EXIST IN THAT PRODUCING STRATA IN LETPANDO FIELD ARE REPORTEDLY 100 FEET THICK COMPARED TO TEN OR TWELVE FEET COMMON IN OTHER ONSHORE FIELDS.

6. NARCOTICS: MANDALAY RAIDS (UNCLASSIFIED)

LOCAL PRESS GIVES ACCOUNT OF CITY-WIDE SWEEP OF NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS IN MANDALAY CONDUCTED ON AUGUST 19. OVER 200 POLICE OFFICERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION IN WHICH RADIO CARS AND OTHER VEHICLES WERE USED. THE RAID NETTED SEVEN TRAFFICKERS, 19 PACKAGES OF HEROIN, NARCOTICS PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, AND 50 BOTTLES OF "INJECTABLE LIQUIDS".

COMMENT: THE "INJECTABLE LIQUID" WAS PROBABLY PETHIDINE, WHICH IS USED EXTENSIVELY BY DRUG ADDICTS IN BURMA'S LARGER CITIES. A SECOND SWEEP IN MANDALAY ON AUGUST 26 RESULTED IN THREE ARRESTS AND SEIZURE OF 8 PACKAGES OF HEROIN.

7. PASSPORT RESTRICTED (UNCLASSIFIED)

BURMESE PASSPORT REGULATIONS MAY BE TIGHTENING UP. ONE VISA APPLICANT WAS TOLD BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE THAT HENCEFORTH NO

PASSPORT EXTENSIONS WILL BE ISSUED. THE CONSULAR SECTION OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE REQUESTED INFORMATION ON DIFFERENT SORTS OF AMERICAN VISAS, PRESUMABLY FOR TRAVEL CONTROL PURPOSES. ANOTHER APPLICANT WAS ASKED TO PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF HIS VISA SIGNED BY THE U.S. CONSULAR OFFICER BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FORM COULD BE PROCESSED.

8. A LOYAL COMPUTER (UNCLASSIFIED)

EVERY COMPUTER CENTER IN THE WORLD HAS A CARD DECK OR TWO USED TO PRODUCE CALENDARS, NUDES, CARTOONS OR OTHER NOVELTIES ON THE LINE PRINTER. THE UNIVERSITY COMPUTER CENTER IN RANGOON IS NO EXCEPTION ... BUT IS ONLY PRODUCES PICTURES OF PRESIDENT NE WIN. HOWARTH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, POLITICAL SUMMARIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975RANGOO02515  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750305-0483  
**From:** RANGOON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750984/aaaacwai.tel  
**Line Count:** 237  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ElyME  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JOINT WEEKA #33  
**TAGS:** PINT, PFOR, BM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006